



Benefits and Entitlements Service Team (BEST)

What's New

2 Feb 06

Opportunity for Postmasters Benefits Plan Enrollees to Change Health Plans, 1 – 28 Feb 06.

The Postmasters Benefit Plan (PBP) dropped out of the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) program effective 23 Jan 06. The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) moved PBP enrollees in self only (codes 361 and 364) to the Blue Cross Blue Shield Service Benefit Plan (BCBS) Standard Option (code 104), and self and family PBP enrollees (codes 362 and 365) to BCBS Standard Option (code 105), effective 24 Jan 06. Former PBP enrollees who do not want to stay with BCBS may enroll in another health plan during the special enrollment period from 1 Feb through 28 Feb 06. To enroll in another plan, call the BEST phone system and transfer to a benefits counselor. The new coverage will be effective at the beginning of the pay period following the one in which the enrollment is conducted. For more information, click [here](#). To read the OPM News Release, click [here](#).

Second Financial Hardship Withdrawals Available for Hurricane Victims. Through 31 Mar 06, victims of Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma who have made a financial hardship withdrawal from the TSP in the past 6 months may make a second financial hardship withdrawal. Obtaining a second financial hardship withdrawal under these rules does not extend the current 6-month non-contribution period. For additional information, click [here](#).

Thrift Savings Plan Participant Statements for the Quarter Ending 31 Dec 05 are now available on the TSP website under Account Access.

TSP Rates of Return for Jan 06. The following chart represents the change in respective share prices for all the funds for Jan 06. The changes in share prices reflect net earnings after accrued TSP administrative expenses, trading costs and accrued investment managements fees have been deducted. Percentages in () are negative returns. For more information, including share costs, go to the TSP Homepage at www.tsp.gov and click on "Returns, Share Prices, & Fund Sheets."

	G Fund	F Fund	C Fund	S Fund	I Fund
January 2006	0.36%	0.09%	2.66%	6.70%	6.14%
<u>Last 12 Months</u> (02/01/2005 - 01/31/2006)	4.48%	1.91%	10.40%	22.00%	13.63%

	L 2040	L 2030	L 2020	L 2010	L Income
January 2006	3.84%	3.40%	2.92%	2.22%	1.10%